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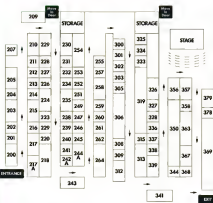
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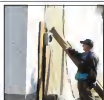
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Truck smashes into house

Crashes through wall into main-floor bedroom

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Is NOTL going to pot? Some residents think so



➤ Town could change zoning bylaws, but it can't stop the Lakeshore Rd. operation, planning director says

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Despite past assertions to the contrary from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, the federal government does indeed allow municipalities to place restrictions on legal commercial marijuana operations.

MP Rob Nicholson, Minister of Defence and MP for Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Fort Erie says the federal government has ruled that there must be access to medical marijuana. But that's subject to municipal zoning bylaws, and those bylaws can be changed to regulate marijuana operations, the same as they could for anything else, he says.

So if Niagara-on-the-Lake wants to dictate, as an example, how far from a residential neighbourhood greenhouses growing marijuana can be located, they can accomplish that through a zoning amendment.

"That's my understanding," he said, adding that if he or his office can help the town work through the legislation, their assistance is available.

Penny Coles Niagara Advance

Garrison Village Dr. residents, living within a couple of hundred meters of a marijuana growing operation, are opposed to the appearance of a fence with barbed wire and the "toxic odour" coming from the greenhouses. They are hoping the Town can do something to help them, but there is nothing that can be done to stop the Lakeshore Rd. operation, says NOTL town planning director John Henricks.

See Page 2



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Town may not be completely powerless over marijuana grow-ops

From Page 1

When Jid Carone, a neighbour to the Lakeshore Rd. greenhouses where marijuana has been grown, sat through a NOTL council meeting recently listening to the town's CAO and councillors go back and forth about how helpless the municipality is in the face of federal legislation, he was frustrated.

"That's all I wanted to say to them, that they do have control. They're passing the buck, beating around the bush, and I don't know why. It seems to me that they can do more than they realize."

Applicants for medical marijuana commercial operations and licensed producers must notify their

local authorities, including the municipality, when they submit an application to Health Canada, when a license is issued, and if a license is amended, said Stewart Graham, Nicholson's constituency office manager.

Graham has advised Garrison Village Drive residents, including Carone and his neighbours, that the notification to municipalities offers an opportunity to engage in a dialogue about local zoning, municipal bylaws and building permits.

Carone lives just a few hundred metres from the Lakeshore Rd. greenhouses. It appears, from information Graham and Town officials have gleaned, that the operation has a permit under the former residential legislation.

Graham says the Lakeshore Rd. operation is complicated. It was restricted to a residential permit, but may have had several permits transferred from other growers.

And although it was thought that operation would cease to be legal when new legislation came into effect Tuesday, a

Town staff is satisfied that bylaws currently in place in NOTL are adequate to address new facilities that are subject to the new federal system."

— NOTL planning director John Henricks

federal court judge ruled otherwise last week, deciding that anyone already licensed to grow the drug can continue to do so, says Graham.

The federal government is appealing the ruling, which could take up to a year, and in the meantime it will be tough for those commercial operations whose licences take effect as the old legislation expires, Graham said—those who currently grow or buy their own pot have no need to look to the more expensive commercial operations for their supply.

But regardless of licens-

ing issues, Carone and his neighbours don't want marijuana grown so close to their homes that they can smell it.

It's a rancid, musty, skunky smell, he says, and it can only get worse when the weather warms up and greenhouse windows are open.

It's not just that it's unpleasant, he says, although he believes the Town should put a stop to anything that diminishes his quality of life, devalues his property, and ruins the appearance of the neighbourhood with a barbed-wire fence.

"I don't think that I or any of my neighbours, and especially our kids, should be inhaling a controlled drug," he said.

"I also don't think we should have to worry about our safety. There is no doubt this operation will attract a criminal element, otherwise why would it need that fence?"

The Lakeshore Rd. greenhouse had been epitome of marijuana plants late last week, but John Henricks, the town planning director, says the owners of that operation have applied to Health Canada for a commercial licence.

They have not, however, advised the Town whether they are making any

improvements or changes to their operation, which would require Town involvement.

Henricks says he has been advised by Health Canada that commercial regulations deal with odour control, and he believes that under the new legislation, operations will be located outside residential areas.

"Of course we can initiate zoning changes. But if the assumption is that this solves the challenges raised by these owners (of the Lakeshore Rd. operation) over this issue, it is misleading," he said.

"There is nothing the Town can do to about the zoning to prevent the Lakeshore Rd. operation."

Town staff is satisfied that bylaws currently in place in NOTL are adequate to address new facilities that are subject to the new federal system, Henricks said.

"Nevertheless, staff continue to monitor what other municipalities have done and are doing to assess if any changes are needed to strengthen the tools we have available; if amendments are needed, these will be recommended to council."

Other municipalities are looking at placing restrictions on the location of medical marijuana

grow-ops. The cities of Ottawa, Port Colborne and Erie are already planning such restrictions.

And in the small municipality of NOTL there are already eight applications in various stages from potential commercial marijuana operators.

Carone's neighbour, Jim Leigh, hopes NOTL will consider setbacks of at least 1,000 metres from a residential neighbourhood.

And it should be at least 10,000 metres from schools, in his view—imagine the outcry if such an operation tried to set up beside Crossroads or St. Michael elementary schools, which have some agricultural property nearby, he said.

"The toxic odour is unbearable. I won't be able to sit outside this summer or open my windows when the greenhouse vents are open," said Leigh.

"The Town needs to get in front of it, before it's too late."

At last week's council meeting, Lord Mayor Dave Eke said he would like to hold a public meeting for local residents but "until we know the rules, we will have a hard time pushing back."

Staff was asked to report back to council next month on the issue.

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Truck crashes into main-floor bedroom

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Inside the Niagara-on-the-Lake house that was hit by a truck Saturday night, a small room is filled with rubble.

Chunks of wood, cement and stucco seem to stretch from wall to wall, but peaking out in the corner is a brightly-coloured bedspread, covering the bed that lies under the wreckage.

It's lucky nobody was home when the truck hit, said owner Nick Pasquale.

When he got a phone call from the police Saturday night telling him his East and West Line house had been hit by a truck, he thought they must have been mistaken. The side of the house is set back so far from the road, he didn't think it was possible,

but when he arrived and saw the tire tracks, he understood.

They weren't mistaken. It was his house. He bought it in 1997, planning to live there, but he and his wife decided they liked their St. Catharines' neighbour-

hood, so he has rented it out ever since.

Each year, he does a little more to fix it up, and most of the interior is new.

Fortunately, the three adult tenants he is renting it to now were not home Saturday night when a 22-year-old Niagara-on-the-Lake man drove his 2009 Mazda off the road, through a ditch, across the corner of an orchard—running over one of the fruit trees—and crossing the driveway before going through the side of the house and into the main-floor bedroom.

His tenants have been staying in a hotel, feeling

fortunate to be alive. He doesn't know when they will move back, he said, because the truck also knocked out the power. He's not sure when it will be restored.

The driver, who was not injured, was found in the back yard behind the house when police arrived, said Const. Derek Watson of the Niagara Regional Police. He was arrested and charged with impaired driving.

Penny Coles Niagara Advance

A main floor bedroom is filled with rubble after a 22-year-old NOTL man drove his truck into the side of the East and West Line home Saturday night. The house has been patched from the outside. It was still without electricity Tuesday, with no word of when it might be repaired.



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The
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BUSINESS PROFILE 2014

Dental Care Niagara

Soothing and comforting aren't feelings you usually associate with making a trip to the dentist's office.

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Children can enjoy the PlayStation in the waiting area while their sibling is having a check-up. There is fresh coffee for mom and dad and a warm welcome for everyone.

"I wanted to be a dentist since I was three years old," said Daniela. She managed to fulfill her dream seven years ago, despite some major stumbling blocks along the way.

At the age of 18, she and her family fled the former Yugoslavia in the middle of the night amid threats to their lives with the escalating violence from ethnic cleansing. Her mother, who is Croatian and her father, a Serbian, left their homeland in 1997 with their two teenage daughters and came to the Niagara area.

"I had to go back to high school to learn English," said Daniela. At the same time, she worked part-time after school at a hotel, washing dishes and cleaning rooms.

Her parents also worked hard to support the family and Daniela says they were all very grateful for

the acceptance and assistance they received from Canadians.

In 2007 - exactly 10 years to the day after Daniela arrived in Canada - she received her degree in dentistry from the University of Western. She spent the next seven years working in dental offices from Milton to Fort Erie.

On April 7, Daniela will open her own practice at 1630 Four Mile Creek Rd. in Virgil. She bought the former parking lot property at the intersection of Niagara Stone Rd. and started building the two-storey office last June. Up-to-date technology includes lead lining in the walls

to reduce radiation from x-rays, a 3D x-ray machine and computer print-outs for patients to take home to determine their options.

"We will try to do our best to make our patients' experience as pleasant as possible," Daniela said of her team of four staff, who will continue to upgrade their skills with training in new medical technologies.

"I love what I do," she said. "I plan on being here in Niagara-on-the-Lake for the next 30 years."

DCN will provide a wide range of services including sedation, dentures, braces and implants. Payment plans for patients without dental benefits will also be offered.

Daniela said one of her goals is to see patients the same day they call when they need treatment.

"And if you call me in the middle of the night, I'm here," she said, regarding emergencies.

Daniela is also continuing to volunteer at the Greater Niagara General Hospital to provide emergency dental services for patients who are suffering from infections or have been in an accident.

"It makes me feel good that I can give back - that people can go from pain to no pain," she said. "There is nothing more rewarding in my life."



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Discrepancies over enrolment projections persist

➤ Board staff stick with projected decline while community groups predict growth

Penny Colles
Niagara Advance

"Trustees, may your conscience be your guide when you make your decision."

Those were Lord Mayor Dave Eke's parting words when he asked District School Board of Niagara trustees to "make the right decision" by allowing Parliament Oak Public School to stay open.

And the decision may come down to their conscience, as board staff continues to disagree with members of CARE, Citizens for Accountable and Responsible Education, the lord mayor and council of Niagara-on-the-Lake, town planners and an engineer who works in planning and development at the region, over which numbers accurately reflect future enrolment for the Old Town's only school.

Even MP Rob Nicholson has spoken of community school populations being cyclical, bouncing back eventually.

School board staff at last Tuesday's board meeting maintained the future looks bleak for the aging facility, with more triple and even four-grade splits in the years to come, and a school population of less than 100 students by 2016.

Even by revising numbers to present the best-case scenario, based on the highest three years of enrolment historically for the school, the projected enrolment only increases to 133 students a decade from now, said superintendent John Stainsby.

But that still leaves the school operating at 40% of its capacity and does not

allow optimal programming for students, he said.

CARE members, however, continued to paint a different picture—one that will come from stability.

And that will occur, trustees were told, with the end of French Immersion at Parliament Oak (which is drawing students from regular programs and causing triple splits), with full-day Junior Kindergarten beginning in September, and with the enforcement and possibly a re-alignment of boundaries to ease pressure on St. Davids and Crossroads Public Schools, creating three right-sized elementary schools in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The 2008 accommodation review in NOTL resulted in a communications breakdown between the school board and residents, Eke reminded trustees, and "left our relations in tatters and resulted in the closure of our only high school."

The recommendations from that accommodation review also called for three right-sized elementary schools, Eke said, leading the trustees to vote to spend \$1.6 million of taxpayers' dollars to renovate Parliament Oak.

"Now, as we are faced with DSBN staff recommendations to close Parliament Oak, it must be asked – what has changed? What happened to the integrity of your own projected enrolment numbers?"

He answered his own question with the programming decisions made by the board that have led to declining enrolment, parent frustration and subsequent student departures. "What is happening at Parliament Oak has nothing to do with a lack of student population in that area," he said.

With new subdivisions putting pressure on Crossroads and St. Davids, and infill in the Old Town, closer to Parliament Oak, Eke told trustees, is

"trading a solution for a whole new problem. And that is not acceptable for Niagara-on-the-Lake students."

CARE member Mark Polgratia, a parent of two youngsters who will be going to Parliament Oak if it stays open, addressed what CARE has said is a myth when considering

the savings from closing schools.

He pointed out that offsetting most of the savings is an increased cost to Crossroads to accommodate more students, not only the capital costs for an expansion, but in increased maintenance because of the expansion, more staff, transportation

(\$36,000 a year if only one extra bus is required) and supplies.

He also reminded trustees the school board will lose its \$76,000 in top-up funding from the province for Parliament Oak, which Crossroads isn't entitled to.

"You're being asked to spend more than \$1 mil-

lion to save maybe \$30,000," he told trustees, "or maybe not even that, depending on buying."

Phill Lambert, a parent with three students at Crossroads, was the first to speak to trustees about the Virgil school and the pressure on it from an increased student load.

See Page 8

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opinion page

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our editorial

Could NOTL be going to pot?

We've heard the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has been notified that there are eight applications for commercial marijuana growing operations within its boundaries.

We have no way of knowing, of course, whether they will be approved. Other than the Lakeshore Rd. greenhouses that everyone is aware of, we don't know where they are. And that information is not made public, so if a resident had any issue with a particular location, they wouldn't know about it.

Our Town officials have an advantage over residents. They are in the loop once an application has been made to Health Canada. But they aren't sharing that information. And they keep telling us there's nothing they could do about it anyway.

Eight large, commercial marijuana operations seem like a lot for a small community, but it's not surprising given the number of greenhouses in an agricultural area. It's a difficult economy for growers. So it's completely logical that greenhouses up for grabs would seem attractive to somebody thinking about getting into the marijuana-growing business.

Here's the conundrum. For months we've listened to Town officials telling us there was nothing that could be done, because federal legislation trumps municipal bylaws.

Now, we're finding out that isn't the

case. NOTL planning staff say instead that of course zoning changes are possible, but wouldn't help limit existing greenhouse operations. Further, we're told there is no need for controls, and that Town staff will be keeping an eye on new developments so that if there is a need, they can advise council.

But the town planning department doesn't know about what's coming down the pipe until the application process has begun, at which time, we're told, it's too late to do anything about it.

It would seem a sensible, proactive approach for town planners in any agricultural area of Canada to begin looking at what controls they can put in place. The information we are getting about what restrictions are possible is confusing and contradictory. Yet the concept of these commercial operations isn't new. It seems the right time to look at what municipal restrictions are possible, and to begin talking about whether they should be implemented, was when we were given notice the federal legislation was changing.

Other municipalities are not quite so complacent – they are considering or implementing restrictions.

It might be more reassuring if our Town officials were following suit, unless we prefer being the marijuana capital of the country, better known for our cannabis production than our VQA wines.

letters to the editor

Neighbours to grow–op considering move to another area

with a new job and looking for a area to live in.

Making the big move from Holland, leaving all our family behind, with two kids to give them better quality of life in a safer environment.

On our last day we were driving around Virgil and Niagara-on-the-Lake and it felt like home.

We decided that we wanted to make a new start in Niagara-on-the-Lake, a safe place, a

good place to raise a family.

After living here now for six and a half years we find ourselves protesting again a medical marijuana grow-op not far away of our property.

Because it's zoned as an agriculture property we have no say in it.

Except maybe moving again to an area with a better quality of life.

Claudia Kester

Purple Day at Parliament Oak



Kristin Walton, executive director of Epilepsy Niagara, spoke to Parliament Oak students Wednesday, March 26, Purple Day for epilepsy awareness. She explained that epilepsy is like a relay race, where one of the relay runners has dropped the baton and created a little gap in the brain. With her is Kelly Laslo (right), a Grade 4 student from Niagara Falls, who was chosen Purple Day ambassador for Epilepsy Niagara, and Jessie Jones, in Grade 7 at Parliament Oak. Jessie suffers from epilepsy, although she says she hasn't had a seizure in a long time. It was important to her family that the school staff and students learn about epilepsy and seizures, she said—some of her friends already knew about her condition, but most of the students did not.

Thanks for Newark support

Newark Neighbours food bank has a new board of directors



Barbara Ahluwalia
Newark Neighbours

Thank you to all who came to support Newark Neighbours at the annual general meeting held last week, where a new board of directors was elected.

Bonnie Turner is our new president, Paul Lalonde treasurer, Theresa Bell is our secretary, Dinie Muste is the

food bank manager, Debbie Redekop and Marianne Seller are members at large, and I

will continue on the board as past president

I would like to thank the board for their support over the past year, and the volunteers for all the hours of their time devoted to keeping Newark Neighbours running smoothly.

The Barn will be open for its summer hours starting on Sunday April 13.

The hours at our John St. location will be Monday, Tuesday, Thurs, Friday and Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Think colourful foliage when buying plants

Think about starting plants in small pots - they're easier to move around

All I was aware of was a loud voice stating "I am not clearing any more snow." Oh, that did not sound like spring. Sure enough we were covered in white again. Well it melted fairly quickly, so we have very moist and cold soil. Be patient and get things orga-



Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

nized, wait for the soil to dry a little then turn in some compost, it is the best.

Since more of the nurseries are opening now go and have a look around and if you are a new gardener take into account the colour of the foliage- you have that for most of the season compared to the flowers.

Check out the heuchera (coral bells)—the range of colour is amazing (and I like them all). Do not be afraid to try something new - a challenge is good for you.

Have you got your slug and snail bait ready? Scatter it around the hostas

and anything else you know is on their menu. I was amazed to learn the very tiny snails can get right inside the plant when just one green tip pops through, and it can devastate the plant.

So let's think positive—we will all bloom beautifully.

Happy gardening.

Foliage can add colour all season long. Heuchera leaves have an amazing range of colours, says Jean Cochrane.

Photo submitted



Dental care, sometimes neglected with age, is important for overall health

Habits learned early in life can become entrenched, even magnified as we age

When I spent time on the school yard it was common for kids to experience the parental threat, or reality, of having their mouth cleaned with a bar of soap.

This was to prevent certain things from coming out of the mouth. As we age some childhood issues return. While I would never recommend the bar of soap, attention to what comes out of the mouth is again in order. And this is not about vocabulary.



Randy Klaassen
Senior's View

Have you been at a social gathering, speaking to another person, when a certain odour caused you to back away? In a crowded room, saying "beep, beep, beep" to back up is not always an option. At times I've found it necessary to turn aside in order to avoid a disgusting stench.

Telling a friend or family member they have bad

breath can be a challenge. However, the bad breath we whiff may well be a sign of a more significant concern needing to be confronted.

I've heard from some older friends that dental care becomes difficult with age. Retired workers often lose their dental care benefit, and consequently regular visits to the dentist become a financial burden.

For some individuals the loss of hand coordination results in frustrations of being unable to do basic brushing (unless you have a great sense of humour).

I recently read several studies connecting poor dental care with issues like heart and liver disease, certain types of ulcers, obesity, diabetes and other chronic ail-

ments. Your friend's bad breath may be a symptom of a serious health issue.

It's no secret that as we age our body goes through changes. One of those changes occurs to our teeth.

With years of use the teeth stain, giving them a darker colour. If we take medication to deal with health issues a side effect of certain medications may cause dry mouth.

We may also experience a decline in the sense of taste. Of the four tastes we detect, salty, sour, bitter and sweet, and later in life it's sweet that stays with us. That explains why Aunt Agnes always had a bowl of lemon drops on the table. She could actually taste them.

As we age the old advice is still valid: Avoid

sweets, especially sugar loaded drinks, as sugar feeds tooth decay and bacteria build up. For those who smoke, kicking the habit will go a long way to improve oral health.

While "old habits" are hard to break, learning something new will help keep you young. Dental care includes using a soft tooth brush to brush gently, don't scrub. Gentle, up and down action, at a 45 degree angle, will remove plaque without damaging your gums. Two and a half minutes is effective, brushing both exterior and interior sides of your teeth. Brushing twice a day, or after every meal, is a good routine.

At least once a day floss between your teeth before you brush. The goal is to remove plaque before it

hardens to become tartar, which can only be removed by a dental hygienist.

To further combat bacteria build up in the mouth try cleaning your tongue with a tongue scraper. Gentleness is a key to remove bacteria while not damaging your taste buds or experiencing the gag reflex. Another tool in the dental care is to use an antibacterial mouth wash. The benefit is a cleaner mouth without using soap.

Finally, if good health is not motivation enough for dental care, I don't mind saying to my older male friends: "The ladies will appreciate your due diligence." So get to it.

If you would like to read other topics for seniors, send me an email: activecarepresentors@gmail.com.

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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18 AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake intends to designate the property at **96 JOHNSON STREET, THE VANDERLIP-HUTCHINGS HOUSE** (Part Lot 108, Plan 86) as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

Description of Property

The Vanderlip-Hutchings House, 96 Johnson Street, is a 2 storey, Georgian style house located at the southwest corner of Johnson and Victoria Streets in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The cultural heritage value of 96 Johnson St. lies within its contextual value; the age and design of the structure; and its historical significance. The Vanderlip-Hutchings House, c. 1816, is an excellent example of Georgian-style architecture. It is located in the historical part of Old Town, directly south of the Queen-Pictou Heritage Conservation District, in an area defined by Georgian, Regency and Neo-classical style architecture.

The house is a one and a half storey five (5) bay timber frame structure with centre hall plan. A number of additions have been added to the rear of the building over the years. Early photographs show that the facade of the house once resembled a number of similar early Georgian houses constructed just after the Town was destroyed in 1813, with a central door and two six over six windows placed low in the wall on either side. Previous owners inserted upper storey windows along the front to provide additional light to the bedrooms. Interior and chimneys on the rear additions have arched brick hoods and are reconstructions based on old designs.

The interior of the c. 1816 section of the house retains a large number of original features including its layout with rooms on either side of a narrow hallway, a simple staircase, chair rails on the lower and upper floors and four (4) fireplaces, including the cooking fireplace and retained Neo-classical parlour fireplace with reeded columns. The cooking fireplace retains vestiges of the brackets used to hold pots and other utensils. The wide, deep wall section to the right of the opening may be the location of a bake oven, now closed up and covered over. Upstairs plaster has been removed to expose a number of the original timber beams that form the structure of the house.

During the early 1800s the property was owned by Andrew Heron, a well-known and respected Newark Merchant, who also founded the Niagara Public Library, published the Niagara Gleaner, and was also the treasurer/clerk of the First Presbyterian Church. Andrew Heron owned the lot until 1808, when it was sold to Edward Vanderlip, the first inhabitant of the house. Not much is known of Edward Vanderlip, except that he is believed to be the son of Fredrick Vanderlip, originally from Pennsylvania, who arrived with his family from a Loyalist refugee camp near Montreal, and worked in Niagara-on-the-Lake as a butcher. Edward Vanderlip also served in the Lincoln Militia in the Second Battalion as Lieutenant from 1846 to 1850.

Some of the more notable owners of the house during the 1800s include Major Joseph Clement and Lieutenant Lewis Clement, both who served in the War of 1812-14, as well as Joseph Painter, a Town councillor, school board trustee and farmer.

There were major renovations and restorations to the house from the 1950s to the early 1970s, including the addition of windows at the second level, which were likely installed by Wm. H. Gurney Jr. In his book titled Old Town Niagara-on-the-Lake, Peter Stokes suggests that the interior is a "particularly charming example of how older buildings may be adapted to modern conveniences."

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key exterior and structural attributes include:

- The entire exterior of the house, including the 5 bay, centre-hall, balanced Georgian facade
- Original window openings on the front facade
- Original windows on west elevation
- Post and beam frame
- Shutters
- Chimneys

Key interior attributes include:

- Original fireplaces
- Original trim, including chair rail and window trim
- Original staircase and baluster
- Remaining original pine floors

Any person may, not later than the 5th day of May, 2014, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake notice of their objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake shall refer the matter to the Conservation Advisory Board for a hearing.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake this 3rd day of April, 2014
HOLLY DOWD, CLERK



Problem is one of disbursement, not of decline of students

From Page 5

"Any decision made here will greatly affect my children and Crossroads students in the coming years," he told trustees.

An engineer with the Region of Niagara planning and development department, he too questioned the board's projections of declining enrolment at Crossroads, even with the arrival of Parliament Oaks students.

Historic data doesn't suggest a declining trend at Crossroads, he said, and although numbers over the coming years are up and down, in 10 years time, based on birth rates, there could be up to 44 Grade 8 students at Crossroads.

The Virgil school is surrounded by 600 potential low-density units, and there are 50 single family homes being built around the fence line of the school.

It's logical, he said, to think that growth, especially of low-density units which are designed for young families, will result in more students, not less.

"If your predicted decline in enrolment doesn't occur, what is the plan to avoid overcrowded schools?" he asked.

The province pays for new schools, but it's still taxpayers' money, and the expense, he says, "makes renovation costs not so bad."

In a holistic approach, he added, "how does this save taxpayers money?"

Shaw coud and parent Jim Mezon also addressed trustees, reminding them that the Old Town school is in the top five of the region with its academic test results.

He too spoke of the number of children living in the Old Town, who, with some changes in programs and policies, will choose Parliament Oak in the future.

"Most of the problems we have will be solved by waiting," he said. "Our problem is one of disbursement, not decline, and we think we can reverse that."

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Niagara Foundation supports school for 'living, vital' community

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The heritage of Niagara-on-the-Lake is a living cultural landscape, the foundation of the community, said Brad Nixon of the Niagara Foundation.

And Parliament Oak School is an essential feature of the living heritage landscape.

The Niagara Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1963 to preserve the heritage of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Speaking to trustees at last week's school board meeting, Nixon pointed out that in 2013, NOTL taxpayers contributed \$11,283,241 in education taxes to the province.

While the Ministry of Education sets out considerations during an

accommodation review that must include the value of a school to its students, school board, community and local economy, board staff focused largely on the value to the board, Nixon said.

The accommodation review committee report balanced all four considerations, he told trustees, and spoke directly to the suppositions regarding declining enrolment.

"Never fall in love with your hypothesis," he said. "This hypothesis has not been proven."

He suggested trustees should consider what could "revitalize and enhance educational opportunities in small schools, as the accommodation review committee did."

"A small school in a small community, like our community, provides unique and rich educa-

tional opportunities. The loss of these educational opportunities and partnerships cannot be compensated for by a half hour or more bus ride in and out of town each day," said Nixon.

New families search out a stable school community, he said.

"There is strong evidence that there are new young families who want to settle here. To ensure this happens, we must be able to provide local schooling."

The Niagara Foundation's concern is the impact on the community as a whole if the school closes, he said.

"We want to see the town continue as a vital, living community, not just as a tourist destination or a museum piece."

Nixon reminded the trustees of all the advantages Parliament Oak students have by being with-

in walking distance of so much of the Old Town, including the Cenotaph for 9/11 and Remembrance Day services, Fort George and the Niagara Historical Museum to learn about history, the Shaw Festival to enjoy a world-class-theatre production, meet the actors and have workshops with them, Butler's Barracks, the Commons and the Niagara Parkway recreational path, Upper Canada Lodge seniors and Memorial Park with its tennis, soccer, beach volleyball, swimming pool and playground, the library and the community centre.

Closing Parliament Oak "would be disastrous for the young people of NOTL, and disastrous for the vitality of this town," he said, asking trustees to consider positive measures the board could take to revitalize the school.



Penny Coles Niagara Advance
Brad Nixon of the Niagara Foundation addresses trustees at the last District of Niagara School Board meeting.

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MP says history shows school enrolment is cyclical

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

The support for Parliament Oak is coming from all quarters, including some that were unexpected.

When members of CARE (Citizens for Accountable and Responsible Education) were asked by trustees whether there is broad community support for keeping the Old Town school open, they were able to answer with a resounding 'yes'.

In addition to more than 1,000 signatures on a petition asking for the school to remain open, parents have received endorsements for their cause from all levels of government, including MP Rob Nicholson.

MPP Wayne Gates is lobbying for them at

Queen's Park, and Lord Mayor Dave Eke has written and spoken publicly to trustees on behalf of the school and its importance to the community.

Regional chair Gary Burroughs has also offered his support.

"This situation is different than the NDSS ARC," he says.

"This time, around, there is no gain to closing. Parliament Oak for any trustee. There is clear community consensus. Your approach is correct," he said to CARE members.

"Stay factual and keep trying to work with the trustees," he has advised.

As a federal government representative, Nicholson is clear that he can offer nothing but his support to CARE members and his personal opinion about Parliament Oak.

"I hope they can keep it open," he says. "A school like this is an essential part of the community. I appreciate that there have been ups and downs in enrolment, but these things are cyclical."

When the tide changes and enrolment increases again, it's important to have the infrastructure in place to send kids to school in their own community, he said.

He references his own Niagara Falls neighbourhood, which is returning to a family-oriented community.

"My neighbourhood had tonnes of kids 25 years ago. They grew up, found jobs elsewhere, and moved away. Now there are all kinds of kids in the neighbourhood again. When you reach a certain age, you can look back and see what's happened over time. It's good to see

kids back on the street."

Closing a school is a "disincentive" for attracting young families, he says.

"It goes back to a sense of community. You move a school out and people with young families will look at it and choose another community with a school."

Communities are always better off when they have a school within their borders, he said.

When he expresses his opinion about school closures, he's sometimes told it's easy for him to weigh in, since the federal government doesn't pay for education.

"I haven't gone out of my way to inject myself into the debate," he says.

"It's true, we don't operate education systems. But if you ask for my opinion, I'll give it, and this is it."



MP Rob Nicholson says he can't do anything to help Parliament Oak other than offer his support and his personal opinion that it should stay open. QMI Agency

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Schools, like churches, contribute to healthy, thriving communities

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Schools are a lot like churches.

People look for them when they're making a decision about where to live, said Steven Hardaker, member and board chair of St. Davids-Queenston United Church. And he understands and supports those who are trying to keep Parliament Oak School open.

Hardaker spoke to trustees at the last school board meeting about the importance of community, and what makes a community a desirable place to live.

The church, he says, is thriving, enjoying an increase in membership.

There are similarities, he says, between how schools and churches contribute to and benefit from healthy communities.

The United church has a history in the community going back to 1813, when Major David Secord donated land for it. He knew, said Hardaker, that community churches and schools attracted new settlers and helped to build a community.

"What Major Secord knew in 1813, is still very

valid today. Old Town has very much a similar past."

A few years ago, the church was struggling with declining membership, but the members who were left were a dedicated, caring group that helped turned their plight around.

These days, he said, "on a typical Sunday morning, our pews are filled to near capacity. We have a parking problem. New faces appear almost weekly. The number of children attending our Sunday school has doubled in the past year."

With the rate of development throughout all of Niagara-on-the-Lake, he said, new families moving into the area are looking for both local community-based churches and schools.

"This builds healthy communities. And this is what is happening now in Old Town," he told trustees.

"The future is bright, if we can answer the desires of these families."

He also spoke of partnerships between the community and church.

"Every

day of the week, our facility is in use," he said.

"Opening your facility to other community groups can also be a source of revenue."

The ARC sees

Parliament Oak as a focal point in the community that is primarily used for learning, but is a gathering place for neighbours, groups and the community at large, he said.

"We are keenly aware of the ground swell of support from the town of NOTL for Parliament Oak and the importance of avoiding overcrowding at Crossroads."

Walkable communities are healthier communities, he added.

"Giving our children the opportunity to exercise begins with the walk to school."

Smaller schools that fit with the community also ensure a healthy

learning environment, he said.

"Virgil has Crossroads. St. Davids has St. Davids Public School. And Old Town has Parliament Oak School. It is important to the community, to educators that this level of schooling remains," said Hardaker.

"St. Davids-Queenston United Church is a living example of how the ARC sees Parliament Oak School in the community of Niagara-on-the-Lake."



Penny Coles Niagara Advance

Steven Hardaker of the St. Davids-Queenston United Church addresses trustees at the last District of Niagara School Board meeting, saying healthy communities need churches and schools.

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Online heritage portal opens gateway for future history buffs

Jennifer Chornley
Special to the Advance

Canada's oldest library has officially incorporated history into today's mainstream technology.

On Monday, the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library launched the NOTL Heritage Portal, a historical and heritage gateway providing one-stop access to the digital collections of libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, community groups, government agencies, and private collections in Ontario and across Canada.

NOTL Public Library Board Chair Andrew

Porteus explained the initial processing of the idea began in 2012 when he was approached with the Huggins Collection - 12 boxes of newspaper clippings, articles, letters and historic bits of information spanning between the 1920s to 1960s. This collection was compiled by Queenston resident Jean Huggins, a community-oriented teacher and historian.

The question posed was what to do with the collection.

A group of representatives from the Niagara Historical Society, the Town, NOTL Fire and Emergency Services, Shaw Festival Theatre, St.

Mark's Anglican Church, Queenston Residents' Association, Queenston Library and Niagara Falls Public Library collaborated to see what resources were available to digitize the collection.

Porteus said the initial partners all had items that could be included to start the archive. With that, the group applied and was approved for a grant through the Ministry or Tourism, Culture and Sport.

Library CEO Cathy Simpson explained the grant helped cover the cost of purchasing equipment, the site hosting costs and a full-time employee for one year to

start the digitizing process in March 2013.

Maya Dymarkowski was the library's project assistant who started digitizing and archiving the many articles and photographs.

"As a former librarian with a great appreciation for history, Maya worked diligently in getting this project up and running," Simpson said. "She was a great ambassador and greatly strengthened our relationships with the various community organizations involved."

Even though Dymarkowski's year has ended, she will continue to work with library staff and volunteers, showing

them the process until there are enough people to continue.

Porteus stressed the importance of archiving the community's heritage by saying, "Collecting things now is the history of the future." He also said that community residents and organizations that want to preserve their heritage and history for future reference, have an opportunity if they don't have the resources themselves, to do so.

Lord Mayor David Eke was on hand to extend congratulations from the Town and acknowledge the dedication and enthusiasm of the library staff, board and community

members involved.

Simpson said expanding the heritage portal will be a continual process and extended an invitation anyone who would like to volunteer their time to assist with the project to do so.

People can visit the heritage portal at <http://vitacollections.ca/notl-heritage>. Here, they will find a variety of collections and links to more historical resources Canada-wide.

Niagara-on-the-Lake joins the library network of Oakville, Halton Hills, Burlington, Toronto also offering digital archives.

See Page 16

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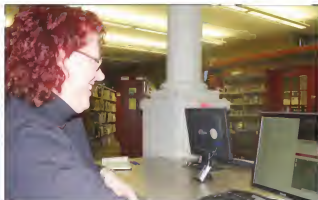
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NOTL Public Library Board vice-chair Brenda Dyck scours through the new online heritage portal launched Monday at the library. Board chair Andrew Porteus, Lord Mayor Eke, library CEO Cathy Simpson, former librarian of 35 years Gerda Molson, Maya Dymarkowski, the Heritage Portal project assistant, and Dyck were on hand for the launch of the heritage portal.



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Niagara Advance
Wednesday, April 2nd, 2014

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Young teen tries to keep mom safe during seizures

St. Michael student
talks about epilepsy on
Purple Day

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Kyle Legros doesn't like to think about people judging his mother.

His mother, Marianne Legros, has had epilepsy since Kyle, now 14, was a baby. She received a head injury in a motor vehicle collision caused by a drunk driver, and she has had seizures ever since.

And when she has a seizure, she often hurts herself. Her face could be covered in cuts or bruises and blue with bruises, says Kyle. "I think people look at her and think drugs or alcohol made her fall, and that upsets me. She doesn't deserve that," he says.

The Grade 8 St. Michael student worries about his mother. He waits until the last minute to go out to the school bus so she won't be alone in the house, he says. And when he's at home,

he watches her for signs of a seizure so he can help. He can try to steer her away from stairs. He can grab a pillow and put it on the floor to cushion her fall. And he puts his hands on either side of her face to protect her head when it hits the ground.

He stays with her, talks her through it, and tells her she's okay. "I let her know she's in the house, that she's safe. It's worse when she's outside."

He has some difficulty talking about his mother—he tries not to get emotional, but sometimes he can't help it, he says. "I don't like to think about her getting hurt. I wish I could do more to keep her safe."

One thing he decided he could do to help her, he said, is to talk about epilepsy, to teach people about the disease so they won't judge those who have it.

Some of his friends know about his mother's condition, but many of the students at his school don't, so he decided to use a science fair project to tell them. "I want more people to know and understand what epilepsy is and what people go through who have it," he says.

See Page 19

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Heritage Fair project designed to teach others about epilepsy

From Page 18

His teacher, Lisa Mayer, encouraged him, and since Wednesday was Purple Day around the world, helped him organize an epilepsy awareness day at school.

He got some dye and a bucket and coloured a white T-shirt and track pants purple so he would have something to wear. He made signs to put up around school, and talked to students about epilepsy. He encouraged them to dress in purple, and gave them ribbons to wear.

He went to Epilepsy Niagara to ask for information for his project. His mother has gone there for help in the past, he said, and they were disappointed to learn the agency has been cut back to two days, because of lack of funding.

"I wish it could be open all the time for people who need it," he said.

He worked hard on his project, and learned some facts he didn't know about the disease, such as the many different kinds of seizures.

He already knew some of the other information, including how common epilepsy is, the many causes, and that because it's a disease of the brain, there is a stigma attached to it.

The motto of the epilepsy association, he said, is "out of the shadows," to stop people from hiding at home, afraid to go out in case they have a seizure, and to help others understand the disease.

His mother is very open about her illness, but it is still hard to deal with, says Kyle.

He tries to be a good student and not do anything to get in trouble, because "I don't want her to worry about me. I want her to be able to relax and know I'm fine."

A little while ago, Kyle broke his wrist playing hockey. His mother was worried about him. It was

strange, having the tables turned, he said.

"Usually it's me worrying about her. Usually she's the one with broken bones, or cuts and scrapes."

Marianne can't drive a car—there are strict regulations for people with epilepsy—but his father and older sisters make sure he can get out to be with his friends, and take him to hockey games. Everyone pitches in to help.

His mother insists his life should be as normal as possible, even though he hates to leave her alone in the house, he says.

"She is always encouraging me to do things. She doesn't want her epilepsy to affect my life. She knows I worry about her. She tells me not to, but I know I always will."

He would love to be an "epilepsy ambassador,"



he says, talking to people about the disease so they will understand what people like his mother go through.

"I don't want people to judge her. She's just a normal person, and she's the greatest mother in the world."

Penny Coles Niagara Advance

Kyle Legros is in purple clothes he died himself for Purple Day at St. Michael School, an event he organized with help from his teacher for a school project to highlight epilepsy awareness. He also made purple ribbons to hand out to students.

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That's right, we're first. One of Canada's most acclaimed playwrights has deemed Lyndesfarne Theatre Projects worthy of having first crack at one of his new plays, one of

seven-or-so premieres he's doling out to theatre companies across Canada this year.

If you caught Walker's *Criminal Genius* at Lyndesfarne last spring, you'll know what to expect. Only more of it. For such a nice, sweet-natured guy, Walker's plays are pulp, profane comedies unconcerned with manners or your sensibilities. F-bombs drop like a rap album. People do horrible things to each other. And you will laugh because they are so committed to being awful, there's perverse pleasure in watching it all blow up.

There isn't another theatre company professional or otherwise putting on shows like this in Niagara. You know you're not at the Shaw Festival when you take your seat and the pre-show music is a symphonic version of Iron Maiden's *The Number of the Beast*. It's a pretty good sign of what's to come.

Walker also directs, and the seediness doesn't take long to start. Living amongst twigs by a ravine, a homeless woman (Karen Wood) is begging a skip tracer (Wes Berger) to not just to track someone down, but to kill him. The guy she hates ruined her life, will do terrible things in the future, and deserves to die.

"I'm about to enter a conflict with a dark and powerful force," she says.

"You don't mean the devil, do you?" Berger replies.

The guy happens to be mayoral candidate Oscar Wallace (Bruce Gooch), and sure enough, he's a substance-abusing sleaze. By the time he pulls out a bong, you'll be thinking Foster was inspired by you-know-who from Toronto (some-what, though most of the play was written long before the Rob Ford saga played out).

Adding to the intrigue is the mayor's hyper, foul-



Karen Wood and William Vickers, husband-and-wife Shaw veterans, star in *The Ravine*, a new George F. Walker play having its world premiere at the Seneca Queen Theatre.

PHOTO: Eric Balaga / Lyndesfarne Theatre Projects

mouthed campaign manager (Sarah Murphy-Dyson), her pregnant lover (Dana Puddicombe) and a mentally unstable

derelict (a drop dead hilarious William Vickers) sent by Woods to kill the mayoral candidate, but who ends up working for

him. "You sent a mentally ill person to do your dirty work?," asks Berger, to which Woods responds "It'll be good therapy for him."

Things don't go as expected - if anything, it ends darker than you may assume. But the cast's comic chemistry and Murphy-Dyson's over-the-top cussing (she's like a Wolf of Wall Street cast-away) never allows for a lull. Metallica's Enter Sandman gets things started and classic rock transients every scene. If you like your theatre rural and proper, keep walking.

For everyone else, it's a rowdy good time which should give Lyndesfarne some much-needed traction here. They should save a spot for Walker again next season.

Call 905-374-7499 for tickets or more information. At the Seneca Queen Theatre in Niagara Falls until April 13.



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April 5 - 27, 2014



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See the details at www.niagarpumphouse.ca

Spring into Music a new shoulder-season festival at Stratus

Penny Colles
Niagara Advance

A local concert series has been designed to help music lovers celebrate spring.

Bravo Niagara is a mother-daughter initiative—both are musicians who share a love of music—with a goal of bringing other great musicians to Niagara-on-the-Lake during the shoulder season.

Christine Mori is the artistic director of Bravo Niagara, her daughter Alexis Spieldecker is the marketing and development director.

Mori describes the new concert series as “an international music festival dedicated to revitalizing the conventional concert experience through inspired and innovative performances.”

It’s not intended to take anything away from the existing Music Niagara, she says, but rather to bring a new audience of tourists and music lovers to visit NOTL in spring and fall. And hopefully to attract a younger generation of audiences, to keep classical music alive by offering an innovative experience, says Mori.

She was at a Toronto Symphony concert recently and couldn’t help but notice many young people, including kids and even babies in the audience. “I loved seeing that, an audience of all ages. That’s what I hope for in NOTL.”

The Bravo Niagara inaugural concert is Spring into Music @ Stratus. One of the two concerts, featuring award-winning vocalist Molly Johnson, is sold out, with a limited number of tickets added for those who have been disappointed about missing it.

Bassist Mike Downes who will be playing alongside Johnson was this year’s Juno Award for Traditional Jazz Album of the Year for his CD Ripple Effect, which also featured jazz pianist and Bravo Niagara artist Robi Botes. All three will appear at Stratus in Jazz Up Close,



Molly Johnson will sing at Stratus—her performance is sold out, except for a few standing-room only tickets. Photo submitted

Saturday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Opening the series will be Greek concert pianist Grigorios Zamparas in Intimately Classical, also featuring 15-year-old Juilliard piano prodigy Nadia Azzi, and a world premiere by composer at residence Constantine Caravassilis.

The concert takes place in the wine press alley, and includes a guided tasting of Stratus signature wines.

Spieldecker calls it “industrial chic,” with an elegant, candlelit space nestled among the wine barrels.

It makes for a very intimate setting, putting the audience right in the midst of the music, she says.

It didn’t take long to get the series underway, says Mori—Johnson’s manager heard about Mori’s intention and wanted the celebrated jazz singer to be part of it.

Since then, “everybody’s jumping on the bandwagon,” she said.

She’s already got the fall concert lined up, with the Elnes Quartet making their Ontario debut at Bravo Niagara in

September.

Elnes, who Mori describes as “the Wayne Gretzky of violin,” was a double Juno winner this year. Hailed as “an important new force in the chamber music arena” with a dream-team line-up, the Elnes Quartet also features world-renowned musicians Amy Schwartz Moretti on violin, violist Richard O’Neill and cellist Robert deMaine.

Elnes won Junos this year for Classical Album of the Year: Solo or Chamber Ensemble, which also featured Moretti, and Classical Album of the Year: Large Ensemble or Soloist with Large Ensemble Accompaniment.

“Artists are lining up, calling us,” Spieldecker says.

“They are so attracted to this, to a new opportunity for them to perform in a new, innovative concert space, I can already see the years ahead.”

Mori, a veteran musician with more than 30 years in the music industry, and Spieldecker, a harpist and recent graduate of Duke University, bring together their own individual talents and expertise as founders of Bravo Niagara.

Mori’s musical career started with early studies at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and attended The Juilliard School.

Mori was the principle pianist with the Florida Orchestra for almost 30 years, and performed solo concerts with artists ranging from Isaac Stern to Branford Marsalis and worked along such notable artists as Marvin Hamlisch, Henri Mancini, Steve Allen, Victor Borge, Roberta Flack and Bobby McFerrin.

Mori says she is very excited to bring her experience, passion and love of music to the community of NOTL, where her father lived.

Spieldecker says she spent much of her childhood growing up backstage. At the age of five, she began her harp studies and, by age 11, she made her professional debut alongside her mother as

they joined together to form Trio Dolce Vita.

Originally from Tampa, Florida, she served as the principle harpist for the St. Petersburg Opera Company from 2004 to 2009, during which she performed

Madame Butterfly, La Bohème, and Carmen, among others.

She now performs for weddings and events throughout the Niagara Region as Lady with a Harp Niagara.

Email contact@bravoniagara.com to reserve standing room tickets for the April 12 evening concert, Jazz up Close, or spring special tickets to the afternoon Intimately Classical performance.

TOWN PREVIEW PERFORMANCE ORDER FORM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____
TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

PERFORMANCE DATE AND TIME (MAXIMUM 4 TICKETS PER HOUSEHOLD)

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY: MAY 15 8PM FESTIVAL THEATRE ... @ \$20 = \$_____

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY: MAY 30 8PM FESTIVAL THEATRE ... @ \$20 = \$_____

HANDLING FEE = \$ 5.80

TOTAL = \$_____ (tax included)

If the above order cannot be completed,

I will accept tickets for the alternate date listed: ☐ YES ☐ NO

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS
☐ CHEQUE - Please make cheques payable to the Shaw Festival

CARD NUMBER: _____ EXP. DATE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____

Order forms will be accepted immediately by fax (905-468-3004), by mail or drop off at the Shaw Festival Box Office, 15 Queen's Parade (Festival Theatre). Orders will be processed in the order they are received and the tickets will be mailed to you if firm limits. Limited seating available for this offer. Ticket sales for these performances are final - no cancellations, refunds or exchanges. Tickets purchased prior to this offer are not eligible for discount and no other discounts can be used in conjunction with this offer. If your order cannot be filled as requested, we will contact you.

ATTENTION CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

The Shaw Festival is now accepting applications from Niagara-on-the-Lake charitable and/or not-for-profit organizations for a share of the funds raised from the Town Previews. Please send us an outline of the project and budget, along with your request for a specific amount of money. Applications should be sent to: Janet Hanna, Administration, Shaw Festival, Box 774, Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S 1J0. Application deadline: April 25, 2014.



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222 Victoria Street,
Niagara on the Lake
905-468-4044
www.graceunitedchurch.com

Minister: Rev. Laura Borgerson
11:30 am Sunday Service
Music Director: Esther Glasbrauch
Parking passes are available at the Church

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10:30 am Worship
The Road to the Cross
John Chapter 18
Speaker: Wayne Dalgleish

Pastor Rick Mills
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lfa.abundantfellowhip@gmail.com

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905-468-3505 • www.vaxine.com/bethany/

GateWay Community Church
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1665 Four Mile Creek Road
905-468-8977
Sunday, April 6th
April Theme:
'Jesus, the reason
for this season too.'

Free! Good Friday morning breakfast at 9:30am,
followed by a one hr service at 10:30am
Pastor Dave Tunikaitis Ministering
www.gatewaypoc.ca
check here for events and podcasts.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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905-468-2611 or 905-468-9673
trinitynotl@ecogeco.ca
10:00 am Worship Service
Pastor Larry Ritter

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10:30 am Choral Eucharist
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www.stmark1792.com

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and Sunday School
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concessions
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www.cstchurch.ca • 905-468-7155
Sunday, April 6th
9:30 am: 1st Service & CE
(childrens provided during entire service)
10:30 am: Coffee Time; 11:00 am: 2nd Service
(childrens provided mid-way through service)
Message by: Kevin Bayne, Pastor
Title: The Royal Coward

VILLAGE Bible Church
St. Davids Public School Meeting at 1344
York Road, St. Davids
289-296-9036

Sunday, April 6th
10:00am Coffee Time + 10:30am
Worship Service
Village Kids (ages 1 - grade 5)
THE THANKS Prayer
Pastor Greg Alderton
www.villagebiblechurch.ca

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905-262-5242
Sunday, April 6th
Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am
Worship Service 10:40 am
Message by Pastor Jim Evans
Childrens provided during service

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH
2403 York Road, St. David
905-262-5242
www.stdavid-queenston-uc.ca
Minister: Rev. Paul Jones

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Nursery and Sunday School

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Niagara United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ in Our Community"

11:00 am
Worship Service
Message by
Guest Speaker
Ellen Brutsch
905-468-3313
http://www.rebrickchurch.ca

Young at Art



Aolbhin Davidson, a Junior Kindergarten student at Parliament Oak Public School, was chosen to have her art piece, The Rain Stopped, on display as part of the Young at Art exhibition at the DSNB Education Centre on Carlton St. to April 15.

Photo submitted

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Education activist wants seat at council

Administration needs to be tamed, says NOTL town council candidate

Paolo Miele speaks his mind.

He wants to be able to speak it as a member of the Niagara-on-the-Lake town council, and is running for councillor in the upcoming October municipal election. He became an activist, and then an education watchdog, when the school board and parents were bat-

tling over the future of the town's only high school.

He also became a thorn in the side of the school board, with a binder at least three inches thick, with the reports he'd requested of the board, many through filing freedom of information requests.

That was the beginning of political involvement that opened the eyes of the Niagara-on-the-Lake businessman, who believes some of the structural issues that exist on the school board are also problems at the municipal level.

He and his wife Adriana grew up in town, met at St.

Michael Catholic School, both the offspring of local farmers. They went to Niagara District Secondary School together, married and have three children, two at Crossroads Public School.

Miele has been following the latest battle between board staff and parents, this time over the future of political involvement that he's concerned about more than education.

He has learned to question municipal politics as well.

The town budget, The heritage tax rebate, Cottage rentals in Glendale. Even the new layout at the town hall

concerns him.

But possibly highest on his list of priorities is the relationship between town administration and council—where he believes the tail is wagging the dog.

"I have a real concern about how much control the administration has over council, and I will change that when I sit on council in December."

Day-to-day operations should be left to staff, he said, "but the direction of the town, and how we spend tax dollars, will come from council."



Paolo Miele and his wife Adriana own two diners in NOTL and operate Art's Restaurant in St. Catharines. The busy father of three hopes to add town councillor to his list of titles.

See Page 27



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Time to shake things up around council table, candidate says

From Page 26

Some councillors have become too complacent, he says.

"We need to shake things up. We need to come up with ideas, and focus on some of the key things in the community - infrastructure, parks, heritage - and not just in the Old Town, but in every community."

He's been speaking to residents in Glendale about cottage rentals, hoping to help them put a stop to the Town's licensing plans, or at least have some input, before another set of problems is created similar to the student rental issues that have plagued the Niagara-

on-the-Green neighbourhood.

He hopes to see a full debate of the heritage tax rebate, but not before the town releases more information about how it works and how much it will cost. The rebate issue has been raised several times at council, he says, but it's still not clear to taxpayers how it will work. He's not ready to weigh in on it yet, because there are too many questions to be answered. Residents don't understand the issue fully, he says, and neither does council.

While he believes in the importance of heritage to the community, the burning question most taxpayers want to know is "will it raise

my taxes? At the end of the day, that's what I need to know. Yes or no. Let's get this answer and move on. Without it we can't solve this problem."

He would also like to see a more itemized budget report, so he knows not only how much money comes in from each department and how much is spent, but exactly what it is spent on.

"An itemized account of expenses and revenue would help council make better decisions," he says. "And it's council who should be making those decisions, not the administration."

Miele is also not happy with the renovations and redesign of the town hall. It makes town staff, including the town clerk and planning staff, off-limits.

"It feels more like a private corporation than a public building. It's not welcoming at all."

When he's visited the town to ask about a building permit or a special permit licence, he's had to make an

appointment to return.

And he's told the reason town staff are less accessible is for their safety.

"Why is this necessary? Have they been threatened? If they have, shouldn't we be aware of it? Was this change the will of council or was it the administration? Why do you need a visitors' badge to talk to someone about a shed permit? This is our town hall. Other municipali-

ties don't make you go through this."

Miele joins Bill Cowie, a newcomer to town with political experience elsewhere, and retired teacher Don MacDougall as declared candidates for the eight council positions in the Oct. 27 municipal election. Pat Darte, a local businessman, and incumbent Dave Eke have filed their intention to run for lord mayor.

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Learn about Level Ground Trading

Fair trade business provides coffee, tea, cane sugar from Ten Thousand Villages

Ten Thousand Villages is hosting Stacey Toews, co-founder and spokesperson for Level Ground Trading, at the United Mennonite Church Friday.

Level Ground is a fair trade organization based in Victoria, B.C., that works with small-scale

producers in developing countries.

The trading company helps to provide a level playing field for disadvantaged producers by giving them greater access to the marketplace, says Ellery Penner of Ten Thousand Villages, a fair trade store on Queen St.

Toews will visit NOTL to share the stories of many small-scale farmers benefiting from direct fair trade through Level Ground.

Paying well above fair trade mandated pricing, Level Ground will pur-

chase the harvest of about 5,000 farming families in 10 developing countries this year.

Established by the Mennonite Central Committee, Ten Thousand Villages creates opportunities for artisans in developing countries to earn income by bringing their products and stories to our markets through long-term, fair trade relationships.

Ten Thousand Villages currently purchase products from more than 130 different artisan groups

in over 35 countries, giving them fair value for their work.

Since 1997, Ten Thousand Villages and Level Ground Trading have partnered to offer a Private Label Coffee Collection in Ten Thousand Villages stores, which have since added Level Ground's loose-leaf tea, cane sugar, and dried fruit to their fair trade food collection.

Toews will be speaking at Niagara United Mennonite Church from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Learn about lung disease at next InfoHealth session

Obstructive lung disorders such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and asthma are becoming more prevalent within our population.

COPD, most often caused by smoking, is a progressive disease marked by breakdown of lung tissue known as emphysema and chronic irritation and inflammation of the airways known as bronchitis. These two processes can greatly impact an individual's health, leading to worsening symptoms of COPD such as shortness of breath, cough and decreased exercise ability.

Learn how to reduce the risk of developing COPD, as well as improving your quality of life if you have the disease, at the next InfoHealth session at the NOTL Public Library Wednesday, April 9.

SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL AT THE DSBN APRIL 8TH!

1200 elementary school children in the villages of NOTL need your help!

The DSBN proposal to close Parliament Oak will push more children into Crossroads and St. Davids.

Some community members believe it's a "done deal".

We believe that democracy can work.

We believe our Trustees will make the right choice, based on facts.

But we need to show the Trustees we are unified as a community in our support of keeping Parliament Oak open and stopping the creation of a mega-school at Crossroads.

This Tuesday night come to hear speakers from your schools (Crossroads, St. Davids, and Parliament Oak), your community and your MPP, Wayne Gates.

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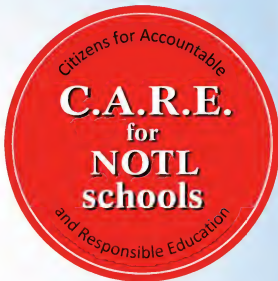
Join us to show your support for all our NOTL schools.

Please give NOTL's children just 1 hour of your time.

Come to the final meeting at the DSBN Head Office (191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines) at 7pm Tuesday April 8th.

***For more information, data sources, and tips on how to get involved visit carenotl.ca.**

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Wyn Kalagian's Land of Magic is just one of the colourful acrylics that will be on display at the Niagara PumpHouse during the month of April, beginning Saturday. She will be present for an artist's salon Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. Her passion is colour; her purpose to raise money for the Guatemala Stove Project (GSP) a Canadian organization that provides funds to build vented stoves in rural villages. Proceeds from every painting sold goes to buy a stove - Kalagian has purchased 120 stoves through sales and donations. She chose this project because of her admiration for the beautiful, hard-working women of Guatemala, and the danger of cooking on an open fire in their tiny homes.



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Thursday & Friday

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Saturday 9am - 5pm

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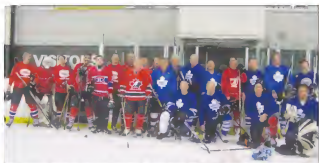
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Wallbangers hockey players, varying in age from 15 to 76, pose for a picture after the final game of their 2013/2014 season before heading to Silk's for breakfast together. Since Blue Team won the final game, Red Team had to treat.

Photo submitted

Blue team wins final game, Red team buys breakfast

Ross Robinson
Special to the Advance

Although the Moore's Maple Leafs (Blue Team) had won three more games than the Hanson's Habs (Red Team) since October, a long Wallbangers hockey tradition was continued last Sunday morning.

Both teams agreed to play a one game, sudden victory final game Sunday, with the losing team treating the winning team to breakfast specials at Silk's Country Kitchen.

The game was unfortunately one-sided, and Blue Team captain Mark Shantz deserves much of the credit for his team's stellar effort. In the dressing room just before his team took to the Meridian Credit Union Ice, Shantz paraphrased Toronto Maple Leaf coach Randy Carlyle by telling his mates, "Our complete level has to go up. We haven't won enough one-on-one man rushes. We've got to play better of the defensive side of the game, eh?"

Left winger Steve Janzen added, "We've got to get more north/south puck movement."

Within five minutes of puck drop, Tim Dool had scored twice to give Blue Team a two-goal lead. Red team was playing with a total lack of truculence, until their goalie Kevin Roach was run over by mistake. No penalty was called by a referee, because the Wallbangers don't use a referee.

Red was back in the game for awhile but lost way too many skirmishes along the half walls, allowing Blue to take a 7-1 lead into the

third period.

Red Team was very gracious in defeat, with their veteran defenseman Ron Critchley commenting, "We just couldn't create energy, and weren't hard enough on the puck. And, I missed my defence partner Dan Tebbutt, who slept in after attending Matt Dietsch's wedding reception at the golf club. And the decision to loan Dan's son Sean and Terry Nord to the Blue Team was obviously a bad idea, in retrospect. We probably took the concept of sportsmanship and fair play too far. But that's Wallbanger hockey, isn't it?"

Much credit should be given to Blue Team's young netminder Rob Vanderperk. He made several great saves early in the game, allowing his forwards to be a bit lazy in the back pressure aspect of the game. Twice, he absolutely robbed Kenny Greer on breakaways, flashing the leather like an NHL'er.

As is often the case in good hockey games, gap management makes a subtle difference. Not overloading one zone opened up the ice, and makes it well nigh impossible for the opposition to create dangerous offensive zone possessions. The final score was 8 to 4.

This injury-free and fight-free season featured many very special Old Timer moments. Now, we will all have to wait for next September to hear Bill Dickson calling, "Come on guys."

A Wallbangers Reunion Golf Tournament is being scheduled for late May at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club, with some 85 current and former players on the invitation list.

BERTIE AND CLINTON MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

DECLARES A 15% REFUND ON 2013 PREMIUMS



President Lubert Doornekamp (right) receives refund cheque from Vice-President Lloyd Roseboom (left) at Bertie and Clinton's head office.

Bertie and Clinton is a local Mutual Insurance Company that specializes in providing farm insurance to its owning members. By insuring with the company, you can also become a part owner and have a voice in how the company is run. Recently, the company declared a refund from surplus of 15% on property, liability and automobile premiums in 2013. Approximately \$1,770,000 was refunded to the policyholders provided they had been insured for at least one year and their policy was in force at December 31, 2013. Bertie and Clinton has declared a refund from surplus in eighteen of the last twenty-three years and has provided insurance for Niagara Peninsula residents since 1880.

The company is run by nine directors who are elected by the policyholders at the Annual meeting. Each of the nine directors are elected for a three year term, with three being elected each year. At the annual meeting held March 25, 2014, David Gill, Phillip Lambert and David Wiley were re-elected for three year terms. Lubert Doornekamp of Fort Erie will serve the company as President for 2014-2015 and Lloyd Roseboom of Port Colborne was elected as Vice-President. Rachael Siciliano of Welland is the General Manager.

Bertie and Clinton Mutual has agents throughout the Niagara Peninsula. If you own a farm in the Niagara Peninsula or for any other general insurance needs please contact us at



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Sports

Editor Penny Coles
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Joel Murray Award



The Joel Murray Award is given to a pee wee house league player, dedicated to Joel Murray, who coached hockey but died tragically at work 15 years ago. It is given to a player who demonstrates fair play, possesses leadership skills on and off the ice, shows the desire to be a team player, is willing to encourage and praise others, and shows a true love for the game of hockey. NOTL Minor Hockey Association president James Berg, with Wendy Murray Nicholson and Thomas Murray, gives the award to recipients Peter Rigas and Ryan Jarrett at the Meridian Credit Union Arena during the association's championship weekend.

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Mr. Hockey



James Berg, current president of NOTL Minor Hockey Association, is presented the Mr. Hockey Award by Dave Mines, former president. This award is presented to the person who has contributed the most to minor hockey in NOTL and who committed themselves unconditionally for the advancement of minor hockey.

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Port Colborne - Day Program Port Colborne High School 211 Elgin Street - Room 314	Wednesday, April 9, or Wednesday, May 7 1:00 p.m.
St. Catharines - Day Program Lifetime Learning Centre 535 Lake Street - Room 104	Wednesday, April 9, or Wednesday, May 7 1:00 p.m.

Adult & Community Education
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

University Women in Niagara

SHAW and TELL ~ APRIL 9, 2014

Shaw Library 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
\$5 Pizza & wings in The Simpson Room
to follow
New Members Always Welcome!
For info call Ursula 289-868-9365



FAMILY APRIL FISH FRY

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1-Pc \$7, 2-Pc \$9, 3-pc \$11

Price includes: Coleslaw, bread,
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Wine & Beer available



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Feast of Glory ~ April 8
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Details - 905-468-0834

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Easter Ham Raffle & BBQ



Sat. April 12th

3 pm - 7 pm

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Branch # 124, 410 King Street, NOTL

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WAGGET, John - Friday March 28th 2014, at the age of 77. Through his brave three year battle with ALS, John was an inspiration for others. He will be sadly missed by his devoted and loving wife Norma. He is fondly remembered for his love and guidance by sons Derek (Teresa), Geoffrey (Cherlene), and Martin (Melanie). John is cherished by his grandchildren for his exuberance and enlightenment (Samantha, Matthew, Ryan and Daniel). The family sends a sincere thank-you to his friends in the Wanders and the Romans for their support and assistance. Dr. Nolan of N.O.T.L., Dr. Turnbull, and all of the staff at ALS Hamilton. They would also like to acknowledge the love and kindness exhibited by John's PSWs, especially Beate and Jose. Celebration of Life will be held at St. Vincent de Paul Church Hall, 222 Dewy St., on Friday, April 11th, 2014, at 12 noon. Memories, photos and condolences can be shared at www.morganfuneral.com

"Fortiter Defendit Triumphans"



In Memoriams

In Memoriams



MICHAEL MOORE
December 22, 1949 - March 30, 2001

Thirteen years gone...
But never forgotten

Love, Patti, Rebecca, Jeff,
little Matthew, and David



As if dying in your 30's isn't hard enough to swallow...
What if you needed a fistful of pills just to digest your food?

Now that you know more about cystic fibrosis, won't you please help?

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www.cysticfibrosis.ca

YOUR BREAST HEALTH

BE AWARE

Know your body. Learn the risk factors.

BE PROACTIVE

Follow breast-screening guidelines.
Practise a healthy lifestyle.

GET THE FACTS

Call the Canadian Cancer Society to get the information you need about our *Seven Steps to Health*, screening, early detection and protecting your breast health.

CALL OUR CANCER INFORMATION
SPECIALISTS WITH YOUR QUESTIONS OR
TO CONNECT WITH OUR SUPPORT SERVICES.

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Canadian
Cancer
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canadienne
du cancer



Novice champs

The NOTL Minor Hockey Association novice BB hockey team sponsored by Simpson's Pharmacy finished off an incredible year with a series win over Grimsby. The team had a great regular season with a record of 22-4-1, and won the championship of three tournaments this year: the Bobby Orr Hall of Fame Classic in Parry Sound, the Chris Knott Memorial in Port Elgin, and the NOTL Christmas Classic. The team included Will Caughill, Liam Dietsch, Madison Giampa, Evan Harford, Cole Holmes, Noah Ostromecki, Jack Parker, Lucas Pearson, Ethan Peters, Logan Smythe, Sam Walker, Ethan Williams and Lucas Williams.

Photo submitted

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LIKE NO OTHER

SOLD!



20 FIRELANE 2B, NOTL \$699,500

THIS WATERFRONT HOME is perfect for a retreat to the shore of Lake Ontario. 3 main floor bedrooms, open concept living area with sweeping views and a deck with stunning view of lake and Toronto Skyline.

NANCY BRAZEAU** 905.371.4234

LISTED AND SOLD!



246 PALATINE PL., NOTL \$1,795,000

MARKETING AT WORK! Our clients' willingness to make some simple changes resulted in beautiful photography and videography. The result? This masterpiece was selected for additional exposure on SIRC's website and HGTV.ca. See the results at www.246Palatine.com

NANCY BRAZEAU** 905.371.4234 & JAIME DA SILVA** 905.321.0449

TESTIMONIAL



Sotheby's International Realty Canada's global reach was truly demonstrated to us in March. Glenn and Nancy connected us to a very experienced Sotheby's International Realty Broker in Florida who, with his knowledge of the local market, helped us find the perfect home. If you are looking for exceptional service, explore the power of their Global connections. Tom and Jane Gauld



Nancy Brazeau**



Glenn Brazeau*



Liesa Lepp*



Patricia Atherton*



Jaime da Silva*



Anna da Silva*



Gary Snider**



Jason Bornell*



Donna D'Amico*



Billie Hawkswell*



Bill Cochrane



Erin Fortune

Showcase of Homes

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Listings of Distinction that Define Niagara

CARRIAGE TRADE



\$319,500
1439 NIAGARA STONE RD. #28
Attractive 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom townhouse in desirable Glenbrook Estates. Overlooks 4 Mills Creek Conservation Area. Well-priced at \$319,500

DAVID SHEARER* 905-468-4214



\$419,000
556 KING STREET - UNIT #17
Surprisingly large - approx. 2000 sq ft finished, 2 bdrms - 3 bath bungalow townhome in private enclave backing onto walking trail. Open concept kitchen, LR, DR with skylights, with Master retreat. Perfect for downsizing or investment opportunity.
OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4

CAROL LIPSETT* 905-468-4214



\$424,900
10 CRIMSON DR. ST. DAVIDS
2+1 bed, 3 bath bungalow townhouse. Gorgeous kitchen w/ granite counters, hardwood floors throughout & main floor laundry. Spacious master bedroom, w/ walk-in closet & ensuite w/ tiled shower. Fully finished basement w/ stone gas FP & stone wet bar, w/ walkout to patio. Quick closing possible.
OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4 PM

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4 PM
905-658-1564.

KATIE REDEKOPP



\$569,000!
225 RICARDO, STE. 208
This is a rare opportunity to enjoy non-stop real estate activity just outside your window at an affordable price! Features: wood floors, crown moldings, Murphy bed, gas stove, 2 side by side parking spaces+.

CALL DOREEN IBBA Office: (905)468-4214 Cell: (905)351-0292 visit: www.kingspointcondo.com



OPEN HOUSE SUN. 2-4
225 RICARDO STE 107
Relax & enjoy corner living in this garden level spacious suite "completely renovated" in luxury finishes. Just move in! A "must see" on your list! Doreen will assist you with expert Kings Pt. knowledge!



\$1,149,000
43 DELATER STREET
Breastaking water views of the Niagara River. Open Concept 2100 sq ft 3 bdrms, 3 bath home constructed with high-end finishes. A short walk to Old Town NOTL.

SHARON ROGERS-ANDERSON* 905-468-4214



\$599,000
66 CONFEDERATION DRIVE
Gorgeous classic centre hall plan located in "Beautiful Garrison Village". This family home features a gourmet kitchen, cherry wood cabinets, S.S. appliances and pantry. Opens to a lovely family room with wood burning FP and built in book cases. Formal D.R. and L.R., 2 pc bath and laundry on main level. Second level 3 good sized bdrms, master with walk in custom designed closet. Large 5 pc spa like ensuite and 4 pc bath. Beautiful wood floors throughout the home. Oversized sun deck to private garden off kitchen for entertaining. Basement with walk up to double car garage.

BEV WIEBE* 289-407-5899



\$389,900
5 HOPE AVE.
4 bed, 3 bath raising ranch with sprawling finished basement. Large master with walk-in and 4 piece ensuite. Main floor laundry, spacious deck, vaulted ceilings and double car garage with access to basement and main floor. Great house, great price! Call before it's too late.



\$569,000
19 GORING WAY
Newly constructed St. David's bungalow features 8' doors throughout, Butler's Pantry, main floor bedrooms with ensuite, separate Dining room and double attached garage. Be the envy of your friends and colleagues.



\$1450MO
678 LINE 2 #101
Great 2 bdrms, 2 bath main floor condo close to all Vail amenities as well as short drive to Old Town NOTL. Perfect weekend or full time home. Call for your private tour!

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**GRAND
OPENING**
Friday April 4
at 1 p.m.

APRIL 4 - 6, 2014

Double Your Fun!

Bring a non-perishable food donation to the Home Show to help out Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold and double your chances of winning thousands of dollars in great prizes! At the show entrance you will receive two entry ballots for the contest!

NEWS RELEASE - For Immediate Release

RE: Niagara Lifestyle Home Show - Seymour-Hannah Sportsplex
240 St. Paul St. W., St. Catharines, April 4 to 6, 2014

The region's #1 Home Show the 27th annual Niagara Lifestyle Home Show is just about ready to roll for another great year! The show spans two NHL size arenas and is full of great bargains for your home and lifestyle. The home show dates are April 4 to 6 at St. Catharines' Seymour-Hannah Sportsplex at 240 St. Paul St. W. The new multi-million dollar facility has lots of close, free parking, is wheelchair accessible, is clean, new and bright and it has a terrific restaurant inside!

Friday is a very special day for seniors at the Home Show! Right from the Grand Opening at 1 p.m. seniors will receive 1/2 price admission all day Friday as part of the "Salute to Seniors" day. Minimum charge for seniors is \$2.50 (coupons and other promotional offers are not valid in conjunction with the seniors discount).

To celebrate the 27th anniversary of the home show in St. Catharines one lucky visitor to the show will win a fantastic electric bike valued at over \$2,800, courtesy of GoGreen Eycles! Other great prizes to be won include: one of two prizes of one cubic yard of rich garden mix soil delivered to your home courtesy of Ridgeview Garden Centre. Plus much more.

Returning as a major sponsor of the show is Reliance Home Comfort who will also be exhibiting at the show and offering tremendous deals on new high-efficiency air conditioners and furnaces. Saving money on our heating/cooling bills and gas bills can be quite significant with new equipment.

A brand new sponsor this year is Bell Fibe. Come experience the best TV service - Fibe TV - now available in St. Catharines! Look for their booth just inside the show entrance.

Another new addition to the show is The Incredible World of Bugs display featuring the Butterfly Man, John Powers and sponsored by Orkin Canada. Kids and adults alike will love it!

One of the many new exhibitors at the show is Accu-Lock who are featuring reduced prices on home, fire and burglary sales. Located near the show entrance in booth 200 they will have security experts on site to answer questions about locks and alarm systems plus enter to win a home safe!

The Home Show is the place to come and discover everything that is new and exciting for your home for 2014. It spans two huge NHL size rinks full of everything imaginable for your home. When you come into the building the home show this spring is in the two rinks to the left instead of the two rinks on

The
27th ANNUAL
NIAGARA
Lifestyle Home Show
2014

Sponsored by

Reliance
Home Comfort

Sponsored by

Fibe Bell

SENIORS
Receive
1/2 PRICE
Admission
Friday April 4
Only 1 P.M. to 8 P.M.

Prizes include:

- a \$2,800, electric bike courtesy of GoGreen Eycles
- one of two prizes of one cubic yard of rich garden mix soil courtesy of Ridgeview Garden Centre (over \$100, each)

the right) You can check out the latest trends and take advantage of some terrific one-time show specials that can really save you money. All in one convenient location for one weekend only!

The Home Show is very proud to have two official media sponsors again this year - The St. Catharines Standard Newspaper and 105.7 FM - EZ Rock.

Local exhibitors have been working hard planning and building their exhibits for this once-a-year annual reunion of the Niagara Region's premier home-related firms. As well as seeing the cream-of-the-crop of local companies it is also a place to shop, compare and save! You can see and compare quality and workmanship and make an informed buying decision at the show.

The Grand Opening of the Home Show is Friday, April 4 at 1 p.m. "A lot of home owners prefer to come on Friday because there is more room to move in the aisles, selection is excellent and exhibitors are fresh because the show has just opened," stated Jenkins. The local economic impact of a successful home show like the Niagara Lifestyle Home Show is huge. Millions of dollars in business is generated by local companies exhibiting which directly translates into hundreds and hundreds of local jobs. The show provides a tremendous boost to the economy and to the improved lifestyle of the entire Niagara Region.

Watch for the Home Show Strollers Band who invite you to sing along and make request!

Some of the hundreds of products and services you'll see at the Niagara Lifestyle Home Show include: replacement windows and doors, landscapers, furnaces, air conditioners, roofers, home builders, kitchen and bathroom renovators, cooking demonstrations, garden centres, patio covers, lawn yards, home security systems, a terrific Silent Auction section with donation made to the Canadian Diabetes Association, locks and safes, Boto massage chairs, basement waterproofing, shutters, rubberized surfacing, direct to home groceries, seniors residences, foam insulation, silk art, bamboo pillows, concrete lifting service, equipment rental companies, Niagara Smoked Meats, fudge, electricians, cottages, recycling options, awnings, real estate, decks, fencing, gazebos, retaining walls, curbing, City of St. Catharines building department and City services, lawn services, Cogeco, spas, upholstery, cookware, resorts, bathtub refinishing, custom carpentry, flooring, door screens, sunrooms and solariums, bottled water, air filtration, painters, upholsters, Direct Buy, siding, skylights, window coverings, water filtration, bathroom accessories, fireplaces, chiropractors, banking, RRSP advice, and some terrific demonstration products.

Reliance Home Comfort is also supporting an important

public awareness campaign about misleading door-to-door sales tactics. Some homeowners are being pressured to replace their water heaters unnecessarily by sales people claiming they are Reliance representatives but are not. Homeowners are being offered "deals" that may trap them in long term contracts with punitive exit fees.

Show hours are Friday April 4, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday April 5, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday April 6, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission is \$5, admission for youths 13 to 18 is \$2 and children 12 and under are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Seniors are 1/2 price on Friday only.

There is more than ever to do at this year's Niagara Lifestyle Home Show - listen to the strolling band, compare prices from the many exhibitors and book your services before these companies get booked for the season.

A limited amount of exhibitor space is still available. Information about becoming an exhibitor in the Home Show is available by contacting Sharon or Dave of Jenkins Show Productions at 1-800-463-1073. See you at the Niagara Region's number one Home Show event - April 4 to 6 the 27th annual Niagara Lifestyle Home Show in St. Catharines! Discount coupons available at virtualhomehows.ca or check your local newspaper for the 2 for 1 piak admission coupon.

-30-

For additional information contact Dave Jenkins at 1-800-463-1073.



**OPENING
APRIL 4TH
1 P.M. - 8 P.M.**

The
27th ANNUAL
NIAGARA
Lifestyle Home Show
2014

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**Chance to Win A
\$2800 Electric Bike,
Courtesy of GoGreen
Ecycles**

Double Your Fun!

Bring a non-perishable food donation to the Home Show to help out Community Care of St. Catharines and Thorold and double your chances of winning thousands of dollars in great prizes! At the show entrance you will receive two entry ballots for the contest!

community
care
of st. catharines & thorold

**The Region's #1
Home Show is Ready to Roll**



Prizes include:

- a \$2800. electric bike courtesy of GoGreen Ecycles
- one of two prizes of one cubic year of rich garden mix soil courtesy of Ridgeview Garden Centre (over \$100. each)

**COME SEE LOCAL HOME IMPROVEMENT EXPERTS!
SHOP FOR TERRIFIC ONE TIME HOME SHOW SPECIALS!**
Seymour-Hannah Sports & Entertainment 240 St. Paul St. W. St. Catharines

- Artwork
- Safes
- Locks
- Awnings
- Electricians
- Foam Insulation
- Fencing
- Recycling
- Electric Bikes
- Spas
- Sunrooms
- Windows & Doors
- Roofing
- Landscaping
- Garden Centres
- Kitchen Renovations

- Lumber
- Lawn Care
- Water Filtration
- Bottled Water
- City of St. Catharines
- Retaining Walls
- Decking
- Skylights
- Estate Planning
- Furnaces
- Air Conditioners
- Shutters
- Water Proofing
- Silent Auction
- Chiropractors
- Investment Advice

- Upholstery
- Painters
- Rubberized Surfaces
- Patio Stones
- Sheds
- Home Security
- Flooring
- Countertops
- Northern Resorts
- Bricks
- Cogeco
- Plumbing
- Cookware
- Duct Cleaning
- Bathroom Renovations
- Investment Properties

Before or after the show you can always contact exhibitors at virtualhomeshow.ca



Enter online to win a \$1000 romantic weekend at the historical Fairmont Royal York in Toronto!

Presented by:

Jenkins Show
Productions
1-800-465-1073

LOTS OF FREE PARKING!